



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Michael Zaleski
(860) 525-8629 ext. 234
mzaleski@connectthedots.org

Groups of volunteers sought for Hartford's 2005 Great American Cleanup™

Hartford, CT — Hartford is about to get a shiny new look for spring, with the help of dozens of dirt-fighting, community-minded volunteers. The City of Hartford and Hartford Proud & Beautiful, an affiliate of the Greater Hartford Arts Council, are busy planning for this year's Great American Cleanup, scheduled for four consecutive Saturdays: April 23, April 30, May 7 and May 14.

This year's initiative will once again be a part of Keep America Beautiful's 2005 Great American Cleanup™ which takes place in more than 14,000 communities nationwide, with the support of more than 2 million volunteers. The Great American Cleanup™ is the nation's largest community improvement program.

The City and Hartford Proud & Beautiful, the city's local Keep America Beautiful affiliate, are looking for community groups, schools, block watches, neighborhood associations, businesses and residents interested in volunteering to participate in the spring cleanup.

Groups are encouraged to select a public street, space, park or playground within the city to be cleaned and beautified. Projects include litter and debris cleanup, graffiti removal, painting, and planting of flowers and greenery. The City and Hartford Proud & Beautiful will provide bags, brooms, gloves, rakes and other sponsor-donated materials to registered groups.

Individual volunteers are also welcome. They will be provided with multiple opportunities to join other groups and volunteer on any of the Saturdays that they choose to participate.

Registration forms for groups seeking to participate in the cleanup are available by contacting Michael Zaleski at Hartford Proud & Beautiful at 860-525-8629 ext. 234 or Mzaleski@ConnectTheDots.org. Groups can also register online at www.ConnectTheDots.org. Registration forms are due by April 15, 2005.